

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-8, 13 and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 10 as follows:

1-8. (Canceled).

9. (Original): A method for preparing slurry comprising the steps of:

preparing slurry by mixing a slurry stock solution and an oxidizing agent, the oxidizing agent being mixed so that the concentration of the oxidizing agent in the slurry is less than a predetermined target value;

detecting the concentration of the oxidizing agent in the slurry; and

additionally supplying the oxidizing agent so that the concentration of the oxidizing agent becomes equal to the predetermined value.

10. (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 9, further comprising the step of:

circulating the slurry in the preparation tank.

11. (Original): The method according to claim 10, wherein the detecting step includes continuously detecting the concentration of the oxidizing agent in the slurry that is being circulated.

12. (Original): The method according to claim 11, wherein the additionally supplying step is performed in accordance with the concentration of the oxidizing agent in the slurry that is detected in the detecting step.

13-14. (Canceled).